



2022-2025 Community Health Needs Assessment

PeaceHealth Peace Harbor Medical Center

Executive Summary



In this Community Health Needs Assessment from PeaceHealth Peace Harbor Medical Center, we present the story of our service to Lane County residents living along this scenic stretch of Oregon Coast. As of October 2021, our 21-bed medical center accommodated 80,052 clinic visits, 8,761 emergency department visits and 51 births for the year. We are proud to serve as one of the few critical access hospitals located in Oregon’s coastal communities.

Our residents can face significant health challenges. The rural nature of life in and around Florence—coupled with a growing population of seniors, low-income families and an increase in the number of people experiencing homelessness, food insecurity and mental health crisis—makes equitable access to medical, dental and mental healthcare an ongoing challenge.

These challenges have been made more acute by the COVID-19 pandemic. In response, we have collaborated with community partners like Siuslaw Outreach Services to help people in crisis, the Boys & Girls Club of Western Lane to provide childcare for first responders and essential workers, the Western Lane Ambulance District to provide at-home medical care, and Florence Food Share and Florence Farmers Market to expand access to healthy food for people in need.

PeaceHealth is driven by our belief that good health, prevention and community well-being are fundamental rights. We support health justice for all and are especially called to be in service to the most vulnerable members of our community. We believe that every person should receive safe and compassionate care—every time, every touch. This deep commitment to equity echoes through the pages of this report.

IN 2022, OUR COMMUNITY IDENTIFIED THE FOLLOWING KEY PRIORITIES:

- Building community organization capacity is a top priority for improving health equity
- Investing in support services—such as crisis mental health counseling and substance abuse prevention—will help address health and safety needs, particularly for youth
- Reducing barriers to affordable housing and healthy food can improve community health
- Hiring more community health workers, patient navigators and peer support specialists is essential for improving equitable access to health and social services

HOME • HOPE • CARE • NOURISH

Our four pillars of community health ensure that we are contributing to a healthier community. Read on to learn about our work with partners in support of these pillars. This includes support of Boys & Girls Club of Western Lane, pivoting to provide childcare during the pandemic to families in need with meals, academic help and even weekly sno-cones.

This assessment is the result of a review of key government and nonprofit data and conversations with community leaders. We learned that our communities still need help addressing a lack of affordable housing, alleviating hunger, and attracting a new generation of healthcare providers to the Florence area. As we move into the next three years, we will continue to address these needs through partnership and advocacy.



HOME



HOPE



CARE



NOURISH

We invite you to read this report in full and learn about the challenges to health and well-being for people living in this coastal region—and how we came together in 2021 with this compassionate, committed community to meet them.